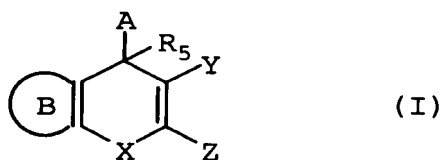


## Substituted 4*H*-Chromene and Analogs as Activators of Caspases and Inducers of Apoptosis and the Use Thereof

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### *Abstract*

The present invention is directed to substituted 4*H*-chromene and analogs thereof, represented by the general Formula I:



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wherein A, B, X, Y, Z and R<sub>5</sub> are defined herein. The present invention also relates to the discovery that compounds having Formula I are activators of caspases and inducers of apoptosis. Therefore, the activators of caspases and inducers of apoptosis of this invention can be used to induce cell death in a variety of clinical conditions in which uncontrolled growth and spread of abnormal cells occurs.